



NATIONAL CENTERS OF  
**EXCELLENCE**  
IN WOMEN'S HEALTH

## Junior Faculty/Community Outreach Projects

May 2000

OFFICE ON WOMEN'S HEALTH  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
AND HUMAN SERVICES

The National Centers of Excellence (CoEs) in Women's Health were established by the U.S. Public Health Service's Office on Women's Health in 1996. Their mandate is to establish and evaluate a new model health care system that unites women's health research, medical training, clinical care, public health education, community outreach, and the promotion of women in academic medicine around a common mission—to improve the health status of diverse women across the life span.

The model includes, among other goals, the expansion of community outreach and linkages to better serve women in the community, particularly those who are underserved. In addition, it seeks to promote career development and opportunities for women in the health sciences. This pamphlet highlights outreach projects spearheaded by junior level faculty members as part of the CoE program.

♦ Center: Boston University

Title of Project: Hair Care Products: A Survey and Toxicological Assessment. A Community Based Project in Support of ACE and Roxbury Hair Salon.

Junior Faculty: Wendy Heiger-Bernays, PhD

Overview. Working with Alternatives for Community and Environment (an environmental justice law and education non-profit organization), Dr. Wendy Heiger-Bernays will focus on identifying products used by the participating salons, primarily African American, in the Dudley Square area and the

extent to which the operators, clients and children are exposed to these products. Research will be done to determine the relative safety of key products that are being marketed as “less toxic.” The project also will determine if there is adequate ventilation for the maintenance of good health. Fact sheets will then be developed on product ingredients and safety.

◆ Center: University of California, Los Angeles

Title of Project: Increasing the Use of Primary Care Services by Neighborhood Women: A Community Outreach Project

Junior Faculty: Allison L. Diamant, MD, MSHS

Overview. Through this project, Dr. Allison Diamant will develop and implement culturally sensitive health-related educational program(s) at a local community clinic, the Burke Health Center, which primarily serves Latina women. The program will meet the needs of neighborhood women as identified through focus groups with staff from the Burke Health Center and community leaders from the Pico Community neighborhood. The project will also focus on increasing neighborhood women’s use of health care services at the Burke Health Center as measured by visits made to the clinic and receipt of preventive health services.

◆ Center: University of California, San Francisco

Title of Project: Improve Access to Primary Care for Chinese Women

Junior Faculty: Anne W. Chang, MD

Overview. In collaboration with investigators from Wake Forest University, Dr. Anne Chang will translate and modify a

comprehensive health education and health record tool, the Health Guide, to make it culturally and linguistically appropriate for use with Chinese women patients. Understanding that both language and cultural issues influence the understanding and use of health care services, translation and dissemination of the Guide will be done through established partnerships with advocacy organizations serving the Chinese community.

◆ Center: Harvard University

Title of Project: Development of Health Diary for Minority Women

Junior Faculty: Dr. JudyAnn Bigby

Overview. As an expansion to the Women Enjoying Longer Lives (WELL) program, Dr. JudyAnn Bigby will identify the health needs of minority women and the most effective health education strategies. The Harvard CoE will then develop a health diary to be used throughout the entire life cycle, from adolescence to older age. The diary will focus on the needs identified by minority women but would be appropriate for women from any racial/ethnic group. In addition, free standing patient education materials will be developed to complement the information in the diary. These materials will be disseminated through local churches, schools, health centers, and other organizations.

◆ Center: University of Illinois at Chicago

Title of Project: Increasing Physical Activity Among African-American Women

Junior Faculty: Jacqueline Walcott-McQuigg, PhD, RN

Overview. Dr. Jacqueline Walcott-McQuigg will work with

middle to older aged (40-75) African American women in the Roseland community of Chicago to promote physical activity. Thirty women will be recruited to participate in educational sessions and individual sessions, where exercise goals will be established. The participants will be asked to record and mail a weekly exercise log to the project team. Upon completion of the 4 month exercise period, these women will then become peer facilitators for others in their community, with the project team providing technical assistance.

♦ Center: Indiana University

Title of Project: Development of Educational Program on Domestic Violence Targeting Adolescents

Junior Faculty: DaWana L. Stubbs, MD

Overview. Dr. DaWana Stubbs will develop and implement a culturally-sensitive and gender-specific educational program that deals with domestic violence and specifically targets adolescents. Dr. Stubbs will work with her adolescent patients at the Westside Clinic to assist them in developing healthy lifestyles and avoid situations involving domestic violence. The program will include an educational CD-ROM, which will contain basic information about domestic violence including incidence, ways to recognize potentially dangerous situations, ways to cope with such situations, and will identify the existing community resources and support systems.

♦ Center: Magee-Womens Hospital

Title of Project: Identifying Ways to Improve Detection of Domestic Violence in the Primary Care Setting

Junior Faculty: Raquel Buranosky, MD

Overview. Through her community outreach involvement in the women's shelters of Pittsburgh and the Magee Neighborhood Health Clinics, Dr. Rachel Buranosky will develop and evaluate methods for domestic violence screening in primary care settings. She will explore barriers as they relate to patient characteristics, provider attitudes, and practice situations through chart reviews and interviews with provider and staff. In addition, the project will provide training opportunities for University of Pittsburgh medical students at local women's shelters. Students will learn about the medical and social needs of abused women and the role they can play as physicians in detection and referral. It is anticipated that Dr. Buranosky will be able to propose a domestic violence screening program for the primary care settings within the UPMC system upon completion of this project.

◆ Center: MCP Hahnemann University

Title of Project: Enhancing Minority Women's Health Through Faculty Professional Development

Junior Faculty: Ana E. Nunez, MD

Overview. Dr. Ana Nunez will design, develop and implement an educational intervention for health care providers who care for underserved/disadvantaged women, specifically Latina and African American women, living with HIV. The educational intervention will focus on enhancing the health care provider's level of cultural competency and therefore enhance patient-provider communication. The educational intervention will be developed by focusing on the patient at the center of care by obtaining health care perspectives through focus groups, interviews and questionnaires.

◆ Center: University of Michigan

Title of Project: Community Outreach in Underserved/  
Disadvantaged Communities

Junior Faculty: Diedre Spicer, MD, MBA

Overview. During the course of this project, Dr. Diedre Spicer will work on three major initiatives. First, she will direct the development of a women's health program to support the Arabic/Middle Eastern/Moslem community in the Detroit metropolitan area. In collaboration with the University of Michigan Health System Office of Multicultural Affairs, Dr. Spicer will establish a program identified as the Crescent Women's Health Program which will include clinical, educational, and informational resources. Second, Dr. Spicer will work with Washtenaw County African American Health Improvement Plan on women's health issues, such as maternal morbidity and mortality, perinatal morbidity and mortality, and general health screening. Third, Dr. Spicer will develop targeted messages to improve rates of cervical cancer screening, prenatal care, and cardiovascular disease prevention among female hourly workers, dependents and retirees of the automotive industry.

◆ Center: Ohio State University

Title of Project: A Community Outreach Program to African  
American Women in the Columbus Area

Junior Faculty: Stephanie Ladson-Wofford, MD

Overview. This project will focus on increasing the knowledge and participation of African American women in research aimed to prevent, diagnose and/or treat debilitating diseases. Dr. Stephanie Ladson-Wofford will work with African American

women, ranging from teenagers to the elderly, in the central Ohio community to educate them in three specific areas: 1. the signs, symptoms, and prevention of hypertension, diabetes, and lupus; 2. the relevance of women's health research to the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease among African American women; and 3. opportunities at OSU to learn about and participate in women's health research.

♦ Center: University of Pennsylvania

Title of Project: Did you See What She Said?: Creating Access to Health Care with Deaf Women

Junior Faculty: Annie G. Steinberg, MD

Overview. Dr. Annie Steinberg will establish a community outreach program that overcomes current barriers to health care and optimizes the use of visually accessible information pathways to empower Deaf women to become informed and effective consumers and advocates of health care services. The program will provide training and support to Deaf women to empower them and provide direct dissemination of women's health information to Deaf women. The program will also provide advocacy, training and technical assistance to health care systems and providers in making their services accessible to Deaf women, and provide Deaf accessibility training and technical assistance to current providers of women's health information resources.

♦ Center: University of Puerto Rico

Title of Project: Dissemination of Information to Community-based Organizations

Junior Faculty: Victoria Delgado Aponte, MLS



Overview. The UPR CoE proposes to provide their partner organizations with additional copies of the Mujery Salud newsletter for increased dissemination. The newsletter will address health issues that are pertinent to the organizations, objectives and missions. The newsletter will also be available at kiosks and health fairs. In addition, Ms. Victoria Delgado will develop four information brochures on topics most relevant to Hispanic women's health in both Spanish and English. Finally, Ms. Delagdo will form a speakers bureau of young female faculty who are interested in speaking at community activities on women's health issues.

♦ Center: Tulane/Xavier University

Title of Project: Assessing and Implementing Mobile Clinical Van Services for Women in Underserved Communities

Junior Faculty: Anuradha Rao, MD

Overview. The Tulane/Xavier University CoE proposes to establish mobile van clinical services for residents in selected public housing development in Orleans parish. Since the establishment of such services requires the consent and approval of the communities, the first portion of the project will focus on conducting needs assessment and establishing relationships with community members. The second half of the program will then focus on implementing the mobile van clinic in the community. Services will include primary care including ambulatory care gynecology, mammography services, and subspecialty services based on need.

♦ Center: Wake Forest University

Title of Project: A Health Guide to Improve the Health of Hispanic Women

Junior Faculty: Elizabeth Dugan, PhD

Overview. Dr. Elizabeth Dugan will translate the Health Guide, which includes information on preventative health and serves as a format for recording health information, into Spanish. The purpose of the Hispanic Health Guide will be to educate older Hispanic women (age 50 or older) to request needed preventative health services, to facilitate documentation of such services, and to improve provider-patient communication. The Hispanic Health Guide will be accompanied by an instruction tape. The cultural appropriateness of the Hispanic Health Guide and tape will be reviewed by appropriate members of the Minority Women's Health Panel of Experts, and focus groups with Hispanic women and providers.

♦ Center: University of Washington

Title of Project: Rural/Underserved Outreach Initiative

Junior Faculty: Mary Laya, MD, MPH

Overview. Dr. Mary Laya will implement a women's health educational outreach program, focused on rural or urban underserved communities of women, through a vertical mentoring system of which junior women faculty are the core. The initiative will identify the educational needs of selected populations of underserved women and provide interactive educational forums to community groups. In addition, it will implement a mentoring system of interdisciplinary teams of senior faculty-junior faculty-clinical preceptor-health professional student.

♦ Center: University of Wisconsin

Title of Project: Wisconsin Outreach for Adolescent Health

Junior Faculty: Betty Chewning, PhD

Overview. Dr. Betty Chewning will outreach to the Indian nations within Wisconsin and build on their resources for addressing adolescent health risk-taking behaviors, particularly sexual risk-taking behaviors. A summary of the key issues will be presented to representatives from each of the 11 nations. The WI CoE will work with representatives from 2 of the nations to offer key resources which build on strengths indigenous to each of the nations. There will be workshops, an oral history curriculum, a pregnancy prevention curriculum, and a “virtual baby” resource. In addition, a statewide workshop will be offered as part of the Wisconsin Indian Education Association annual meeting in March to develop skills and increase understanding needed to address adolescent health risk-taking behaviors within the nations.

♦ Center: Yale University

Title of Project: Increase Communication of Health-Related Information to Underserved Women

Junior Faculty: Barbara Gulanski, MD

Overview. Through the development of a newsletter, Dr. Barbara Gulanski will focus on increasing timely communication of important health-related information in an understandable format and in a way that directly benefits women in underserved and disadvantaged communities in greater New Haven. The newsletter will focus on a wide range of women’s health-related

issues and will be designed specifically for underserved populations in the greater New Haven area.

**NATIONAL CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE IN WOMEN'S HEALTH  
MAY 2000**

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Internet: [www.bmc.org/coewh/](http://www.bmc.org/coewh/)

University of California, Los Angeles, Phone: 800-825-2631,  
Internet: [www.med.ucla.edu/womens/](http://www.med.ucla.edu/womens/)

University of California, San Francisco, Phone: 415-885-7273,  
Internet: [www.itsa.ucsf.edu/~ucsfcoe/](http://www.itsa.ucsf.edu/~ucsfcoe/)

Harvard University, Phone: 617-732-8798,  
Internet: [www.hmcnet.harvard.edu/coe/](http://www.hmcnet.harvard.edu/coe/)

University of Illinois at Chicago,  
Phone: 312-413-1924, Internet:  
[www.uic.edu/orgs/womenshealth/index.html](http://www.uic.edu/orgs/womenshealth/index.html)

Indiana University School of Medicine, Phone: 317-274-2754,  
Internet: [www.iupui.edu/~womenhlt/](http://www.iupui.edu/~womenhlt/)

Magee -Womens Hospital, Phone: 412-641-6003,  
Internet: [www.magee.edu/cewh2.htm](http://www.magee.edu/cewh2.htm)

MCP Hahnemann University,  
Phone: 215-842-7041, Internet:  
<http://www/mcphu.edu/institutes/iwh>

University of Michigan, Phone: 734-763-0984,  
Internet: [www.med.umich.edu/whrc/ctr.excel.html](http://www.med.umich.edu/whrc/ctr.excel.html)

Ohio State University, Phone: 614-293-6937,  
Internet: [www.osumedcenter.edu/women/](http://www.osumedcenter.edu/women/)

University of Pennsylvania, Phone: 215-898-0147,  
Internet: [www.obgyn.upenn.edu/cewh/](http://www.obgyn.upenn.edu/cewh/)

University of Puerto Rico, Phone: 787-753-0090,  
Internet: [www.rcm.upr.edu/2klwhc](http://www.rcm.upr.edu/2klwhc)

Tulane University and Xavier University of Louisiana,  
Phone: 504-585-6156, Internet: [www.tulane.edu/~tuxcoe/](http://www.tulane.edu/~tuxcoe/)

Wake Forest University, Phone: 336-713-4220,  
Internet: [www.wfubmc.edu/women/](http://www.wfubmc.edu/women/)

University of Washington, Seattle,  
Phone: 206-598-8986, Internet:  
[www.depts.washington.edu/~uw98coe/](http://www.depts.washington.edu/~uw98coe/)

University of Wisconsin, Madison, Phone: 608-267-5566,  
Internet: [www.womenshealth.wisc.edu/](http://www.womenshealth.wisc.edu/)

Yale University, Phone: 203-737-5820, Internet:  
<http://info.med.yale.edu/womenshealth/>

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